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VIA FAX 202-307-1454
Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Mr Ashcroft:

I am writing to convey my support for the settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice in November 2001. I believe this outcome is good for both business and the consumer and gives concerned parties an opportunity to move forward.

After reviewing the terms of the settlement, I am of the opinion that Microsoft has made many concessions and that the government has negotiated a tough agreement. For example, Microsoft agrees to document portions of the code that Windows uses in order to make different programs work together. Competitors will then be able to use such information to design better programs. This represents a *first* in an anti-trust settlement. In addition, Microsoft consents to the formation of a three-member Technical Committee to monitor the company's compliance with its new obligations.

As a certified management consultant in the technical industry, I thoroughly understand the usability and flexibility that Microsoft products provide. With your continued support of this settlement, Microsoft will be in a position to focus on new technologies that will facilitate increased efficiency and productivity for business and consumer users alike.

Sincerely,

Mary M Ruprecht, CMC
President

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